



## DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

---

980 NINTH STREET, SUITE 1500  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814  
WWW.DELTACOUNCIL.CA.GOV  
(916) 445-5511

April 22, 2019

Diane Riddle  
Asst. Deputy Director  
Bay Delta and Hearings Branch  
Division of Water Rights  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Matthew Holland  
Manager, Bay-Delta Section  
Bay Delta and Hearings Branch  
Division of Water Rights  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I St  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### **Re: Assistance with Development of Biological Goals**

The Delta Science Program is pleased to present the enclosed final report entitled, "Developing Biological Goals for the Bay-Delta Plan: Concepts and Ideas from an Independent Scientific Advisory Panel." The transmittal of this report fulfills a request from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to facilitate an advisory panel to provide advice on developing biological goals for the updated Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan). Upon request from the State Water Board, the Delta Science Program agreed in May 2018 to manage the independent scientific advisory panel report development.

The State Water Board charged the panel with providing advice on the development of scientifically defensible methods for formulating biological goals, not to develop the goals themselves. The panel presented their draft report and participated in a public meeting on March 4, 2019. The Panel's draft report was revised based upon comments received at the public meeting from State Water Board staff, technical panels, and the public. In the report, the independent panel provides recommendations, methods, and responses to specific charge questions related to salmonids, other native fishes, and ecosystem processes.

The independent advisory panel consisted of Dr. Cliff Dahm (Chair), Dr. Wim Kimmerer, Dr. Peter B. Moyle, Prof. Charles A. Simenstad, Dr. Josh Korman, and Dr. Gregory T. Ruggerone (Lead Author). These panel members were selected for their expertise and reputation concerning Central Valley anadromous salmonids, local estuarine dependent species, lower trophic ecological processes, and expertise in relevant statistical methods.

---

*"Coequal goals" means the two goals of providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem. The coequal goals shall be achieved in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place."*

*– State Water Code §85054*

If there are questions about the independent science advisory Panel's report or the science advisory process, please contact Rachael Klopfenstein, Delta Science Program, at (916) 445-5088.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Callaway". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

John Callaway, Ph.D.  
Lead Scientist, Delta Science Program  
Delta Stewardship Council

Enclosure